B-2359

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines* for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property	Bottimer		* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
	LDING AT 409 WEST BALTIMPOE		
other names/site number Cal	vert Dry Goods		
2. Location			
street & number 409	West Baltimore Street	N/A	not for publication
	timore	N/A	vicinity
state Maryland co	de MD county Independe	ent City code 5	10 zip code 2120
3. Classification			
Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Res	ources within Property
X private	X building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
public-local	district	1_	0 buildings
public-State	site		sites
public-Federal	structure		structures
	object	76.TI	objects
	*	1_	OTotal
Name of related multiple property	listing:	Number of con	tributing resources previously
	of Baltimore, MD 1850-1904		itional Register0
. State/Federal Agency Cer			
	meets does not meet the National Re		e continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other	official		Date
State or Federal agency and burea	u		
. National Park Service Cer			
hereby, certify that this property	is:		
entered in the National Regist	er.		
See continuation sheet.			
determined eligible for the Nat	tional		
Register. See continuation sl			
determined not eligible for the			
National Register.			
removed from the National Re			
	Signature o	the Keeper	Date of Action

6. Function or Use	B-2359		
Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions) COMMERCE/TRADE/warehouse		ctions (enter categories from instructions) TRADE/warehouse	
INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/	oorana,		
manufacturing	(A-100)		
7. Description			
Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (e	nter categories from instructions)	
	foundation _	BRICK	
ITALIANATE	walls	IRON	
	<u> </u>	BRICK	
	roof	ASPHALT	
	other	WOOD	

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

The building at 409 West Baltimore Street, known historically as the N. Hess & Bro. Building, is a four-story brick commercial building with a cast-iron facade above an altered storefront, It is located on the south side of West erected about 1875. Baltimore Street about 160' west of North Eutaw Street in central Baltimore City, Maryland. The principal elevation faces north. The first floor storefront is completely obscured by a plain brick wall which extends across the adjoining building on the east This wall is pierced by two small rectangular fixed windows flanking the off-center entrance. The cast iron facade remains intact on the upper stories, however; it is three bays wide, defined by chamfered piers with foliated capitals flanking window openings whose arches have rounded corners and flat tops. The floor levels are marked by Windows are large 2/2 sash. intermediary cornices spanning between consoles; the building cornice has a deep bracket overhang above a paneled frieze enriched with quatrefoil appliques. The building is occupied by a wholesale clothing business.

8. Statement of Significance			B-2359
Certifying official has considered the significa-	ance of this prop nationally	erty in relation to other properties: statewide X locally	
Applicable National Register Criteria A	□в ХС	□D	
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	□в □с	□D □E □F □G	
Areas of Significance (enter categories from ARCHITECTURE	instructions)	Period of Significance c.1875	Significant Dates
		Cultural Affiliation N/A	
Significant Person		Architect/Builder Unknown	
State significance of property, and justify crit	eria criteria con	siderations, and areas and periods	of significance noted above.

THEME:

Cast Iron Architecture in Baltimore, MD, 1850-1904.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The building at 409 West Baltimore Street is significant as representing a Full Cast Iron Front type building.

9. Major Bibliographical References	B-2359
Baltimore City Directories, 1870s-1	940s
Kahn, Philip, Jr. <u>A Stitch in Baltimore's Needle Trades</u> (Balt Society, 1989).	Time: The Four Seasons of imore: The Maryland Historical
National Register Nomination, Riem Historical Trust	an Block, on file at Maryland
Maryland Inventory of Historic Pr Trust, Crownsville, Maryland.	operties, Maryland Historical
Previous documentation on file (NPS): preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	Primary location of additional data: State historic preservation office Other State agency Federal agency Local government University Other Specify repository:
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of property Less than one acre USGS quad: Baltimore East, MD UTM References A 1 8 3 6 0 1 4 0 4 3 4 9 9 1 0 Zone Easting Northing C	B
	See continuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Description Boundaries are defined as a single city 1 642, Lot 19, recorded among the Land Records of	
	See continuation sheet
Boundary Justification	
The nominated property comprises the city	lot upon which the resource stands.
3 	See continuation sheet
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Peter E. Kurtze, Architectural History Baltimore Heritage, Inc.	1 V 1000 1202025
organization Baltimore Heritage, Inc. street & number 109 Brandon Road	date14 May 1990 telephone(410) 296-7538
city or town Baltimore	state MD zip code 21212

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

B-2359

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet BUILDING

BUILDING AT 409 WEST BALTIMORE STREET Baltimore Maryland

Section	number	7	Page _	1
Section	HUHIDEI		rage _	_

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:1

This building is a three bay wide brick structure with a flat sloping roof; it adjoins other commercial buildings on both sides. The building to the east, #407, is under joint ownership; the two buildings are united on the exterior by an altered storefront. This comprises a plain red brick wall punctuated by two small rectangular single-pane windows and an off-center entrance with double doors. The original storefront cornice is enclosed in a box. A large modern sign is located above the entrance; a tiled entrance platform is inscribed "A. Falk & Sons", recalling an occupant of the building in the early to mid-twentieth century.

The upper facade is virtually unchanged. The large 2/2 windows are framed by chamfered piers and topped with flat arches with rounded corners. The piers have stylized capitals in a foliated design. The deeply overhanging cornice is supported on foliated brackets above a paneled frieze with quatrefoil designs. The upper facade is painted in shades of cream and brown.

¹ Description prepared by Janet L. Davis, 1986.

B-2359

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

BUILDING AT 409 WEST BALTIMORE STREET Baltimore Maryland

Section number	er <u>8</u>	- Page	2
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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930 Modern, 1930-[1941]

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture/Landscape Architecture/Community Planning Economic (Commercial and Industrial)

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

COMMERCE/TRADE/warehouse INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION/manufacturing facility

Known Design Source: None

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet BUILDING

BUILDING AT 409 WEST BALTIMORE STREET Baltimore Maryland

Section number ___8 Page __3__

HISTORY AND SUPPORT:

Documentary and architectural evidence suggest that the fourstory iron front building at 409 West Baltimore Street was constructed at the same time as the adjacent #407, about 1875. In 1854, the property on which the building stands was sold to Henry (1786-1865), a successful and influential Baltimore businessman with interests in meat packing, provisions, and a sugar Henry Reiman & Sons operated a wholesale grocery business on the site; following the elder Rieman's death in 1865, the property passed to his sons Alexander, William J., and Joseph. Tax records for 1866 indicate that the property was improved by a three-story brick house; within ten years, this structure was removed and replace with the "four story iron warehouse" for which the three Reiman brothers and John Black were assessed in 1876. Like their father, the Rieman brothers were involved in a variety of successful enterprises in the city. Alexander Rieman was President of the Western Maryland Railroad Company. William J. Rieman was a dealer in provisions and commission merchandise. Joseph Rieman (1822-1898) was an officer of several corporations, a member of the Committee of Five which encouraged industrial development in the city, and was involved in real estate development; among his projects was the "Rieman Block" (1880), a mixed commercial and residential block at 617-631 West Lexington (NR Nomination, Reiman Block, MHT.)

The boot and shoe factory of N. Hess and Brother occupied the building in 1876. Nathan Hess, shoemaker, immigrated from Germany in 1852 and began manufacturing shoes in Baltimore in 1872 in partnership with his brother Sol. Nathan Hess died in 1883; his youngest son, Isaac, was 13 years old at that time, but later ran the business with his own sons. Isaac Hess established the retail branch of the business, opening the N. Hess men's shoe store in 1890 at 110 East Baltimore Street, with the entire stock supplied by the Hess factory. The retail store was destroyed in the 1904 fire, but was rebuilt the following year. Isaac Hess also introduced a successful line of orthopedic shoes. The firm has grown through the twentieth century to enjoy a national reputation in the retail shoe trade. (Kahn, pp. 65-65n.)

Following the death of Nathan Hess in 1883, the Hess firm

See Continuation Sheet No. 4

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

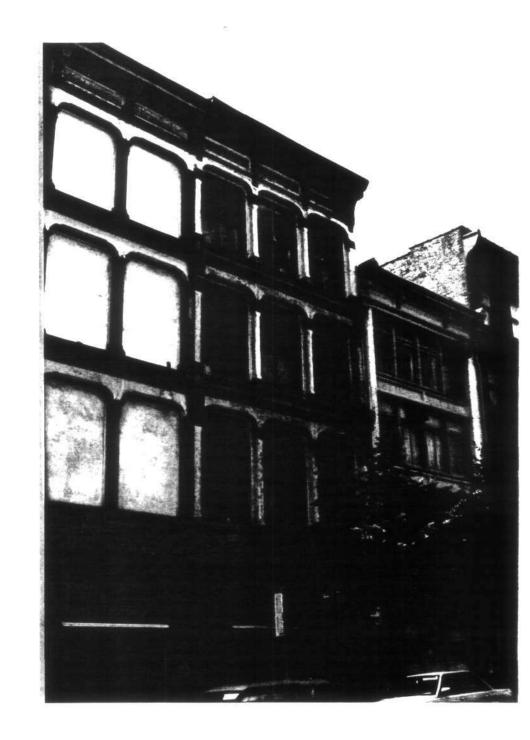
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet BUILDING

BUILDING AT 409 WEST BALTIMORE STREET Baltimore Maryland

Section number <u>8</u> Page <u>4</u>	

moved out of the building. By 1898, Mendel Schwartz & Sons, wholesale clothiers, had become the occupants. The Baltimore City directory for that year lists the principals in that firm as Mendel, Jacob, and Samuel L. Schwartz. The 1898 tax records indicate the tenant as W.J. Schwartz & Sons. The building remained in use as a clothing factory at least as late as 1911, when it is shown as such on a Sanborn insurance map. In 1919, the property was sold to Alexander Falk, whose wholesale dry goods and general merchandise firms occupied the structure until 1958, when the property was sold to Emmanuel Carton, proprietor of Baltimore Dry Goods. In 1983, the property passed to Bernard Carton, who also owned the adjacent building at 407 W. Baltimore Street; the two structures were joined at that time. It is currently occupied by the Discount Depot, a clothing retailer.





B-2359 409 West Saltimore St Baltimore, Maryina 7 August 1994 photo: Ronald L. Andrews Neg: MD SHTO North elev //

OMB No. 1024-0018 NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 8-86) B-2359 United States Department of the Interior National Park Service MHT Inventory No. NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM 1. Name of Property historic name: _409 West Baltimore Street____ other name/site number: _Calvert Dry Goods street & number: 409 West Baltimore Street ______not for publication: n/a vicinity: n/a____ city/town: Baltimore____ county: (independent city) code: 510 state: MD zip code: 21201 Classification Ownership of Property: private___ Category of Property: building Number of Resources within Property: Contributing Noncontributing ____ buildings ____ sites ____ structures __ objects 0 Total Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: __0_ Name of related multiple property listing: Cast-iron Architecture of Baltimore 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

X See continuation sheet.

USDI/NPS N	RHP REGISTRATION FORM	40	09 West	Baltimore	st.	Page	#_2
5. Nationa	al Park Service Certification	on :======			===:	====	==
deter Nati deter Nati	red in the National Register See continuation sheet. mined eligible for the onal Register See continuation sheet. mined not eligible for the onal Register red from the National Register						_
other	(explain):						
		S	ignatur	e of Keeper		Date Acti	on
6. Functio	n or Use	======	======	========	====	====	==
========	=======================================	======	======	========	====	====	==
Historic:	COMMERCE/TRADE						
	_INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXT		_manufa	acturing fa	CILL	t y	-
Current :	COMMERCE/TRADE	Sub: 	_busin	ess			_
======== 7. Descrip	======================================	— :=====: :=====:	======		====	=====	 == ==
Architectu	ral Classification:						
OTHER:							
vernacula	r						
_commercia	1						
Other Desc	ription:						
Materials:	foundation roowalls oth			-			
Describe p	resent and historic physica	l appea	arance.				
X See	continuation sheet.						

USDI/NPS NRHP REGISTRATION FORM 409 West Baltimore St. Page # 3
8. Statement of Significance
Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: locally .
Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : _n/a
Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE COMMERCE
Period(s) of Significance: _ca. 1875-1941
Significant Dates: _ca. 1875
Significant Person(s):
Cultural Affiliation: _n/a
Architect/Builder: _unknown
State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above. _X_ See continuation sheet.
9. Major Bibliographical References ===================================
Previous documentation on file (NPS):
_ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested previously listed in the National Register _ previously determined eligible by the National Register _ designated a National Historic Landmark _ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #
Primary Location of Additional Data:
_ State historic preservation office _ Other state agency _ Federal agency _ Local government _ University _ Other Specify Repository:

USDI/NPS NRHP REGISTRATION FORM 409 West Baltimore St. Page # 4
10. Geographical Data
Acreage of Property:USGS quad: Baltimore East, MD
UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing
$\stackrel{A}{\text{c}}$ $\stackrel{=}{=}$ $\stackrel{=}{=}$ $\stackrel{B}{\text{d}}$ $\stackrel{=}{=}$ $\stackrel{=}{=}$
See continuation sheet.
Verbal Boundary Description: See continuation sheet.
Boundary Justification: See continuation sheet.
The nominated property comprises the city lot upon which the resource stands.
11. Form Prepared By
Name/Title: Peter E. Kurtze, Architectural Historian
Organization: for Baltimore Heritage, Inc. Date: May 14, 1990
Street & Number: 109 Brandon Road Telephone: (301) 828-1644
City or Town: Baltimore State: MD ZIP: 21212

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number ____ Page #____

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance,

1870-1930;

Modern, 1930-[1941]

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture, Landscape

Architecture and Community

Planning;

Economic (Commercial and

Industrial)

Resource Type: Architecture:

urban vernacular; standing structure

Economic (Commercial and Industrial):

manufacturing/warehouse/store; standing structure

Category: Building

Historic Environment: dense urban development

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): industrial/commercial;

manufacturing, warehouse,

store

Known Design Source: unknown

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number4 Page #	nomination he documentation onal Register of fessional requirements property meets
Signature of certifying official	Date
State or Federal agency and bureau	
In my opinion, the property meets does Register criteria See continuation sheet.	not meet the National
Signature of commenting or other official	Date
State or Federal agency and bureau	

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section	number _	_7	Page #	†	
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7. Descr	iption ^l				
======	=======	=====	======	=======	
Describe	present	and	historio	physical	appearance.

Description Summary:

409 West Baltimore Street, known as the N. Hess & Bro. Building, is a fourstory brick commercial building with a cast-iron facade above an altered storefront, erected about 1875. It is located on the south side of West Baltimore Street about 160' west of North Eutaw Street in central Baltimore city, Maryland. The principal elevation faces north. The first floor storefront is completely obscored by a plain brick wall which extends across the adjoining building on the east (#407). This wall is pierced by two small rectangular fixed windows flanking the off-center entrance. The cast iron facade remains intact on the upper stories, however; it is three bays wide, defined by chamfered piers with foliated capitals flanking window openings whose arches have rounded corners and flat tops. Windows are large 2/2 sash. The floor levels are marked by intermediary cornices spanning between consoles; the building cornice has a deep bracketed overhang above a paneled frieze enriched with quatrefoil appliques. The building is occupied by a wholesale clothing business.

General Description:

The N. Hess & Bro. Building is a three bay wide brick structure with a flat sloping roof; it adjoins other commercial buildings on both sides. The building to the east, #407, is under joint ownership; the two buildings are united on the exterior by an altered storefront. This comprises a plain red brick wall punctuated by two small rectangular single-pane windows and an off-center entrance with double doors. The original storefront cornice is enclosed in a box. A large modern sign is located above the entrance; a tiled entrance platform is inscribed "A. Falk & Sons," recalling an occupant of the building in the early to mid-twentieth century.

The upper facade is virtually unchanged. The large 2/2 windows are framed by chamfered piers and topped with flat arches with rounded corners. The piers have stylized capitals in a foliated design. The deeply overhanging cornice is supported on foliated brackets above a paneled frieze with quatrefoil designs. The upper facade is painted in shades of cream and brown.

¹Description prepared by Janet L. Davis, 1986

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Sec	tic	n n	umb	er _	8		Page	#							
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8.	Sta	tem	ent	of	Sig	gnif	icano	e							
===	===	===	===:	===:	===:	====	=====	====	====	=====	====	=======	=====	======	======
		_						1112		CHILD SEE	_	criteria			e.

Significance summary:

409 West Baltimore Street is significant for its architecture. Constructed about 1875, it is a rare surviving example in Baltimore of the iron front commercial building type. Its cast iron facade, most likely produced in a local foundry, represents a type of architecture which characterized loft buildings in Baltimore in the latter half of the nineteenth century; many such buildings were lost in the fire of 1904. Despite alterations at street level and the infill of window openings on the upper floors, the building's cast-iron structural elements remain clearly expressed; the large window openings are characteristic of the building type, designed to admit ample light to the workers on the upper stories. The building derives additional significance from its association with the important garment manufacturing and sales industries which flourished in this area of Baltimore in the third quarter of the nineteenth century and first quarter of the twentieth. was occupied by N. Hess and Brother, boot and shoe manufacturers, from 1876 to 1883; founded in Baltimore in 1871, this firm was the predecessor of Hess Shoes, a nationally-prominent shoe manufacturing company. The building has housed a series of shoe and clothing firms since its construction, and retains its association with the garment industry into the present; its period of significance is defined as continuing until World War II, in accord with current National Park Service guidelines.

History & Support:

Documentary and architectural evidence suggest that the four-story iron front building at 409 West Baltimore Street was constructed at the same time as the adjacent #407, about 1875. In 1854, the property on which the building stands was sold to Henry Rieman (1786-1865), a successful and influential Baltimore businessman with interests in meat packing, provisions, and a sugar refinery. Henry Rieman & Sons operated a wholesale grocery business on the site; following the elder Rieman's death in 1865, the property passed to his sons Alexander, William J., and Joseph. Tax records for 1866 indicate that the property was improved by a three-story brick house; within ten years, this structure was removed and replaced with the "four story iron warehouse" for which the three Rieman brothers and John Black were assessed in 1876. Like their father, the Rieman brothers were involved in a variety of successful enterprises in the city. Alexander Rieman was President of the

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Sec	ctio	on	nu	mb	er	8	3	I	age	#_	2		36																
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8.	Sta	ate	eme	nt	οf	Si	gni	fic	canc	е																			
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Western Maryland Railroad Company. William J. Rieman was a dealer in provisions and commission merchandise. Joseph Rieman (1822-1898) was an officer of several corporations, a member of the Committee of Five which encouraged industrial development in the city, and was involved in real estate development; among his projects was the "Rieman Block" (1880), a mixed commercial and residential block at 617-631 West Lexington Street. (NR Nomination, Rieman Block, MHT)

The boot and shoe factory of N. Hess and Brother occupied the building in 1876. Nathan Hess, shoemaker, immigrated from Germany in 1852 and began manufacturing shoes in Baltimore in 1872 in partnership with his brother Sol. Nathan Hess died in 1883; his youngest son, Isaac, was 13 years old at that time, but later ran the business with his own sons. Isaac Hess established the retail branch of the business, opening the N. Hess men's shoe store in 1890 at 110 East Baltimore Street, with the entire stock supplied by the Hess factory. The retail store was destroyed in the 1904 fire, but was rebuilt the following year. Isaac Hess also introduced a successful line of orthopedic shoes. The firm has grown through the twentieth century to enjoy a national reputation in the retail shoe trade. (Kahn, pp. 64-65n).

Following the death of Nathan Hess in 1883, the Hess firm moved out of the building. By 1898, Mendel Schwartz & Sons, wholesale clothiers, had become the occupants. The Baltimore city directory for that year lists the principals in that firm as Mendel, Jacob, and Samuel L. Schwartz. The 1898 tax records indicate the tenant as W. J. Schwartz & Sons. The building remained in use as a clothing factory at least as late as 1911, when it is shown as such on a Sanborn insurance map. In 1919, the property was sold to Alexander Falk, whose wholesale dry goods and general merchandise firms occupied the structure until 1958, when the property was sold to Emmanuel Carton, proprietor of Baltimore Dry Goods. In 1983, the property passed to Bernard Carton, who also owned the adjacent building at 407 W. Baltimore Street; the two structures were joined at that time. It is currently occupied by the Discount Depot, a clothing retailer.

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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9. Majo	r Biblio	ographical	Ref	erer	nces										
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Baltimore City Directories, 1870s-1940s

Kahn, Philip, Jr. A Stitch in Time: The Four Seasons of Baltimore's Needle Trades (Baltimore: The Maryland Historical Society, 1989).

National Register Nomination, Rieman Block, on file at Maryland Historical Trust

B-2359 N. Hess and Brother Building 409 West Baltimore Street Private

ca. 1875

The N. Hess and Brother Building is one of about a dozen full or partial cast iron facades remaining in Baltimore, which was one of the centers of production of architectural ironwork in the 19th century. The building was occupied from 1876 to 1883 by N. Hess and Brother boot and shoe manufacturer. Founded in 1871, this firm was the predecessor of Hess Shoes.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. B-2359
Magi No. 0423595511

DOE __yes x no

4 Name				
1. Nam	(indicate	preferred name)		
historic N.	Hess and Brothe	er Building		
and/or common	Calvert D	ry Goods		
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	409 Wes	st Baltimore Street		not for publication
city, town	Baltimore	vicinity of	congressional district	3rd
state	Maryland	county		
3. Clas	sification			
Category district _x_ building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisition in process being considere x not applicab	X_ yes: restricted	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
- 1	Tack Rubin	imore Street	telephone no	
city, town	Baltimore			yland 21201
		egal Descripti		
	stry of deeds, etc.	Baltimore City Court		liber SEB 268
street & number		Fayette and Calvert	Streets	folio 208
city, town		Baltimore	state	Maryland
6. Rep	resentatio	n in Existing	Historical Surv	eys
title CE	BD West Survey			
date 19	976		federal state	e county _X_ loca
_epository for su	rvey records Comm	ission for Historical		
city, town	Baltimo	re	state	Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. B- 2359

Condition		Check one	Check one		
excellent good	deteriorated	unalteredx_ altered	X original s	date of move	
_X fair	unexposed	_a_uncieu		date of move	

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

SUMMARY:

The N. Hess and Brother Building is a four-story brick commercial building with a cast iron facade built about 1875 on the south side of West Baltimore Street about 160 feet west of North Eutaw Street in central Baltimore, Maryland. The principal elevation faces north. The storefront is completely obliterated by a brick wall which extends across to the adjoining building on the east, No. 407 West Baltimore (B-2360), which is jointly owned. Both buildings are currently occupied by a wholesale sportswear business. The upper cast iron facade is mostly unchanged and has flat arches with rounded corners and chamfered piers.

General Description:

The N. Hess and Brother Building is a three-bay wide brick structure with a flat, sloping roof which adjoins other commercial structures on both the east and west. The building on the east, No. 407 West Baltimore (B-2360), is jointly owned, but is treated as a separate building in this survey. The Hess Building shares its altered storefront with No. 407. It is a plain red brick wall punctuated by two small rectangular single pane windows and an off-center doorway with double doors. Above the doorway is a large sign. A tiled entrance platform is inscribed with the name "A. Falk & Sons", an occupant of the building in the early to mid-20th century. The storefront cornice is enclosed in a box.

The upper facade is virtually unchanged. The large 2/2 windows are framed in flat arches with rounded corners and chamfered piers. The piers have stylized capitals in a foliated design. The cornice has a paneled frieze with quatrefoil designs and large foliated brackets support the overhanging corona. Small modillions alterante with the brackets. The upper facade is painted cream and brown.

8. Significance

Survey No.

B-2359

Period prehistoric 1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799X 1800-1899 1900-	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture architecture art commerce communications	어린 그 사람이 전투 전 경험 중요 중요 중요 하는 것들은 이번 때문에 가장 되었다.	re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	ca. 1875	Builder/Architect	
2	icable Criteria:A and/or icable Exception:	B <u>xCD</u> ABCDEFG	
		nationalstate _xlocal	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

SUMMARY:

The N. Hess and Brother Building is one of about a dozen full or partial cast iron facades remaining in Baltimore, which was one of the centers of production of architectural ironwork in the 19th century. The building was occupied from 1876 to 1883 by N. Hess and Brother boot and shoe manufacturer. Founded in 1871, this firm was the predecessor of Hess Shoes.

History and Support:

The pair of cast iron-fronted buildings at 407-409 West Baltimore Street were probably built about 1875 and are good examples of the type. The large window openings flooded the upper floors with light, a basic requirement of the loft manufactories which proliferated in the area of the 200-500 blocks of West Baltimore Street. N. Hess and Brother, boot and shoemakers, were located in No. 409 from 1876 to 1883. This firm was founded in 1871 and still exists as Hess Shoes. No. 409 was occupied in 1920 by Alex Falk and Sons, a clothing manufacturer, which remained until about 1957. Calvert Dry Goods has been the tenant since about 1964.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. B-2359

Baltimore City Directories Enoch Pratt Free Library, Maryland Dept: Vertical File - Hess Shoes

10. G	eograph	ical Data		
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return to:

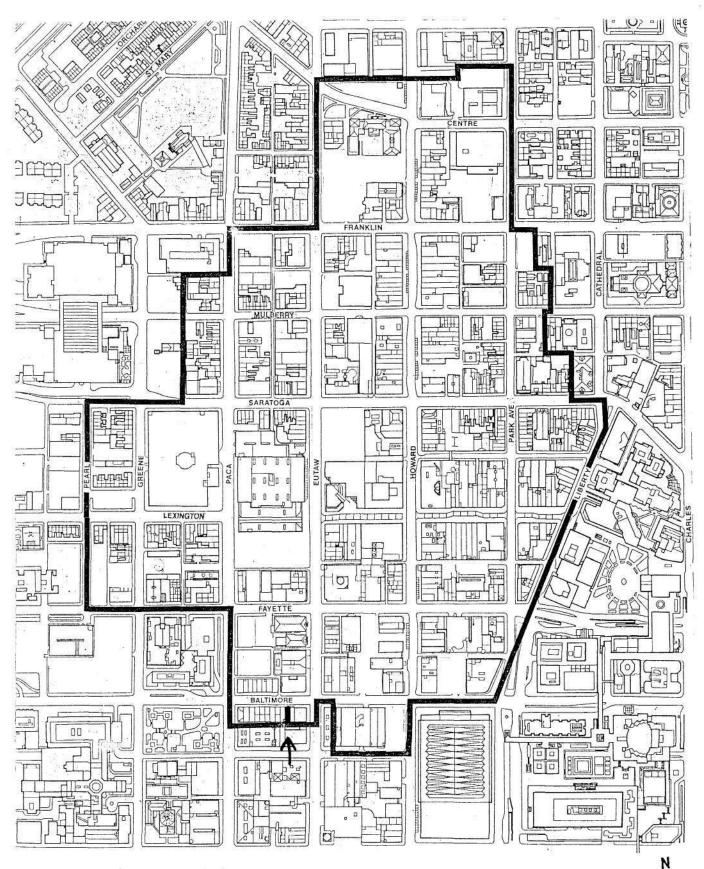
Maryland Historical Trust

Shaw House

21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 269-2438



Baltimore Metrocenter Survey Market Center N. Hess and Brother Building 409 West Baltimore Street B-2359



N. Hess & Brother Building B-2359
409 West Baltimore Street
Market Center - Metrocenter Survey
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Janet Davis
March 1986
Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
North elevation
1/2



N. Hess & Brother Building B-2359
409 West Baltimore Street
Market Center - Metrocenter Survey
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Janet Davis
March 1986
Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
View of 407-409 West Baltimore St.
2/2

B-2359 Hess Building Baltimore Private

Statement of Significance

For more than a century the Hess name has been a familiar one to Baltimore shoe shoppers. One of their earliest factories was in the cast-iron front building at 409 W. Baltimore Street. This building, and a similar one next door, are a testament to the importance of cast-iron to the development of the loft district and the local foundries that cast this type of iron work.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

HISTORIC	s Building				
AND/OR COMMON	s bulluing				
AND/OR COMMON					
LOCATION	1				
STREET & NUMBER	409 West Baltimore	Street			
CITY, TOWN	Baltimore	VICINITY OF	CONG	RESSIONAL DISTRI	СТ
STATE		VICINITY OF	COUN	ITY	
	Maryland				
CLASSIFIC	CATION				
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS		PRESE	NTUSE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	X_OCCUPIED	_	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
XBUILDING(S)	X-PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	X	COMMERCIAL	PARK
_STRUCTURE	_вотн	_WORK IN PROGRESS	-	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESID
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	-	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	XYES RESTRICTED	-	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	_	INDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATI
		_NO	_	MILITARY	_OTHER:
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STREET & NUMBER CITY, TOWN LOCATION COURTHOUSE.	Hyman and Mollie Ca	VICINITY OF IPTION Courthouse	Liber	STATE , Z #: RHB 29	
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CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

__EXCELLENT

__DETERIORATED

RUINS

__UNALTERED

X_ORIGINAL SITE

¥GOOD —FAIR

__RUINS X_ALTERED __UNEXPOSED

__MOVED DATE____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This four story high, three bay wide commercial building has a cast-iron front. The first floor has been altered and is finished as an identical parody of its neighbor (407 W. Baltimore) with brick and a modern pent roof. All windows are similarly detailed to those of its neighbor, but are double hung with 2/2 lights. Strings of molding at each floor level have rows of egg and dart molding and have chunky round headed terminal blocks resting on gouged flat brackets.

The thin cornice is supported on tall slim acanthus brackets, between which run ventilator grilles adorned with rosettes. Rows of modillions are set between the bracket beneath the cornice.

The first floor of the building has been covered with brick resting on a concrete base which is carried from the neighboring building to the west (407 W. Baltimore Street). Two small plate glass windows have been set in the brick, and a double wooden door gives entrance on the left.

All windows on the second through fourth floors are flatarched with rounded corners and chamferred lintels which rest on pilasters with chamferred edges and stylized capitals with floral casts.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

ERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	_COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
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_1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
_1600-1699	_ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
_1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X1800-1899	∠ COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION
_1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	XINDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		_INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

For more than a century the Hess name has been a familiar one to Baltimore shoe shoppers. One of their earliest factories was in the cast-iron front building at 409 W. Baltimore Street. This building, and a similar one next door, are a testament to the importance of cast-iron to the development of the loft district and the local foundries that cast this type of iron work.

Historical Significance:

Constructed c. 1875 this building first served as the boot § shoe factory for N. Hess § Brother. They had been founded in 1872 by Nathan and Sol Hess, immigrants from Europe. A shoemaker by training, Nathan had arrived in Baltimore in 1852 and began to work in his new surroundings. For 20 years he continued his trade until deciding that he could manufacture quality footwear more cheaply in a factory. The two brothers benefitted greatly from post-war demand for shoes and their business flourished. They moved to the new building at 409 W. Baltimore in 1875 and remained until 1883 when larger quarters were needed. Coincidentally, Nathan died that year, leaving five sons to carry on the business.

Originally, Hess Shoes only made shoes. They were responsible for many improvements for shoemaking machinery and continued to be innovative in design and manufacturing after the opening of their first retail store in 1890 at 110 East Baltimore Street, which sold only men's shoes. Their factory, then located at Fayette & Harrison Streets, made all the shoes sold in the new store. Working with the newly opened Hopkins Hospital, they designed a last for the first orthopedic shoes in this country. This design was used 50 years and pleased many customers. In addition, the Hess factory made stylish shoes for men and women.

The retail business continued to flourish even after their store was destroyed by the 1904 fire. They were one of the first stores in the area to use the fluoroscopes to check how well a shoe fit. They also were quick to drop them when it was determined

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

STREET & NUMBER

CITY OR TOWN

Vertical Files, Baltimore Industrial Museum

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _ VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES STATE COUNTY STATE COUNTY II FORM PREPARED BY NAME / TITLE Robert Weis, Philip Kahn ORGANIZATION DATE November 1980 Baltimore Industrial Museum

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TELEPHONE

301-396-1931

STATE

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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

217 N. Charles Street

Baltimore, Maryland 21202

#B-2359 Hess Euilding Hist. Sign. p. 2

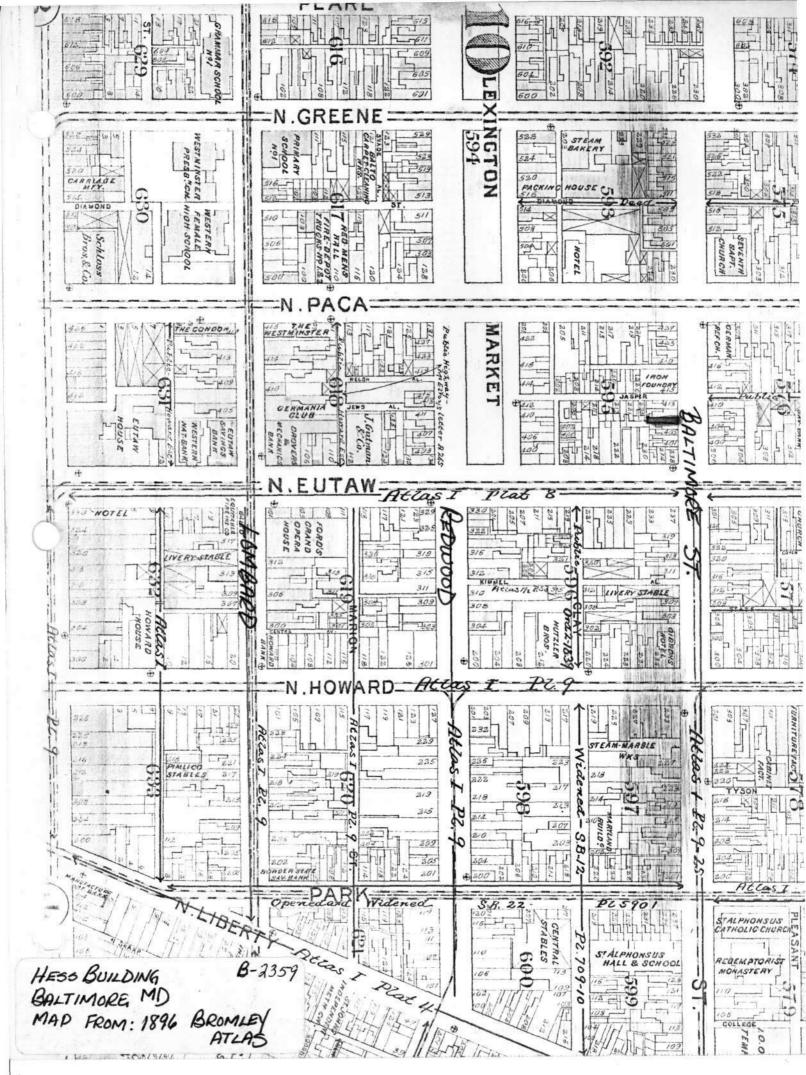
that X-rays could be harmful to customers and salespeople. In 1929 they opened one of the first suburban branch stores in the country. The new store, at Charles & 21st Streets, specialized in children's shoes and was decorated with a goldfish pond, sliding board and sand box. The stock was all concealed which was practically unknown in a shoe store at the time. They prospered at this location and continued to attract children and mothers to other suburban shops after World War II with various gimmicks, including live monkeys and barbershops.

Throughout the rationing years of World War II the Hess stores managed to keep excellent stocks because they had maintained a good selection at the time rationing figures for retailers were set. All their stores were crowded and they were undoubtedly one of the best stocked shops in the area. In 1945 Hess Shoes became a founding member of Shoes Associated, a nationwide group of family-owned shoe stores organized to be able to compete with growing chain stores.

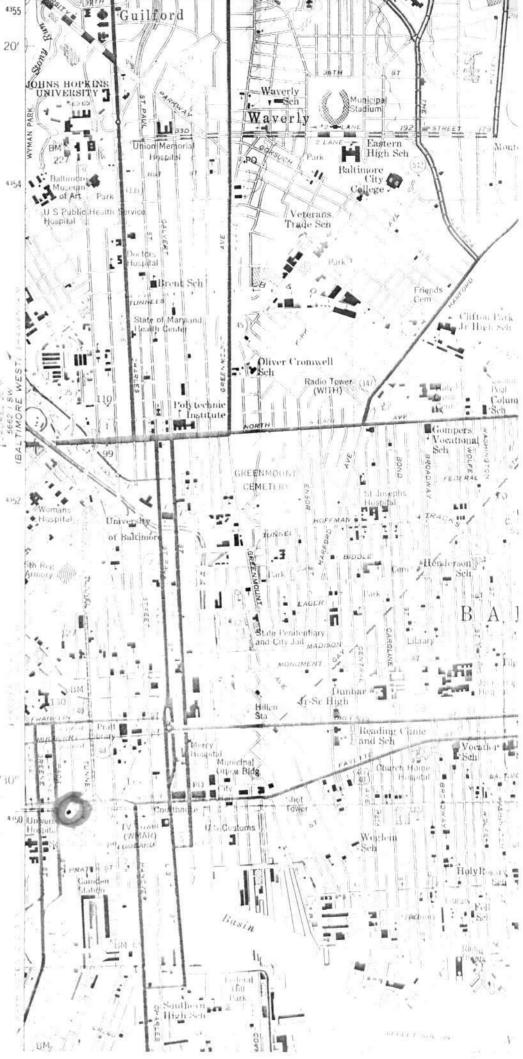
Although no longer making shoes, the firm is still closely associated with their design. In 1961 a Hess employee designed the "Forward Thrust" sole which has helped countless people worldwide who work a lot on their feet. Today, Hess Shoes has retail stores downtown and at every major shopping area in the suburban sections. With beginnings in the loft district, Hess Shoes has grown to be one of Baltimore's best known and most trusted retailers. The building they once occupied at 409 W. Baltimore is still used in the clothing industry by Calvert Dry Goods.

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25 PHOTOS AND SKETCH MAP OF LOCATION Significance For more than a century the Hess name has been a familiar one to Baltimore shoe shoppers. One of their earliest factories was in the cast-iron front building at 409 W. Baltimore Street. This building, and a similar one next door, are a testament to the importance of cast-iron to the development of the loft district and the local foundries that cast this type of iron work. REFERENCES (CONTINUED)



Hess Bld. 18360230 4349945



HESS BUTLDING B-2359 U.S.G.S. 7.5 Balto. E. Qual 183602304349945



Hess Building
409 W. Baltimore Street
Negative Location: Maryland Historical Trust
Peter Liebhold 8/1981

North Facade (Baltimore Street)



B-2359
Hess Building
Hog W.Baltimore Street
Negative Location: Maryland Historical Trust
Peter Liebhold 8/1981
South Facade Crear of building)

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

NAME						
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AND/OR COMMON		Calvert Dry Goods				
LOCATION	٧.	x & & &		4.		
STREET & NUMBER		09 W. Baltimore Stree	o t	1 27 15 h		
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STATE	Maryland		COUNTY			
CLASSIFIC	CATION	¥ 3/8	£			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	/STATUS	PRESENT USE			
DISTRICT	→PUBLIC	LOCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM		
BUILDING(S)	PRIVATE	_UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK		
_STRUCTURE	ВОТН	_WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDEN		
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISIT	ION ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS		
OBJECT	_IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	_SCIENTIFIC		
	BEING CONSIDERED	_YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION		
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STREET & NUMBER	Baltimore 0	city Courthouse				
CITY, TOWN	Baltimore		STATE Mary	land 21202		
REPRESEN	NTATION IN EX	ISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE	City of Ball	timore Neighborhood	Survey			
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	500					
	26 South Calvert St					
E	Baltimore. Md 212	04				

CONDITION

EXCELLENT

__DETERIORATED

¥GOOD _FAIR

__RUINS __UNEXPOSED CHECK ONE

NALTERED

CHECK ONE

YORIGINAL SITE

MOVED DATE____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

SEE 407 W. BALTIMORE ST.

This four story high, three bay wide commercial building has a cast-iron front.

The first floor has been altered and is finished as an identical parody of its neighbor (407 W. Baltimore) with brick and a modern pent roof. All windows are similarly detailed to those of its neighbor, but are double hung with 2/2 lights. Strings of molding at each floor level have rows of egg and dart molding and have chunky round headed terminal blocks resting on gouged flat brackets.

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PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
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STATEMENT C	OF SIGNIFICANCE	8		(5 .)

A cast-iron facade.

10

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY							
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STREET & NUMBER	Room 900	- PRESERVATI	TELEPHON	E			
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409 W. BaHimore St.

631 ST. W. BALTIMORE ST 22'4 15 18/13 ST 16 15 13 14 12 10 11 8 9 8 AL NAPOLEON S. PACA 3 5 6 408 406 404 ST. W. REDWOOD 654

MACED BY GMoorehead

ETTERED BY C. H. BAIN

HECKED 9Y

MOTICE

THIS IS A REAL PROPERTY PLAT AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER ARTICLE 76H) OF THE CITY CHARTER. IT IS COMPILED FROM TITLE AND OTHER SOURCES AND IS NOT AN AUTHENTIC BUSINEY.

CITY OF BALTIMORE

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
BUREAU OF PLANS & SURVEYS
PROPERTY LOCATION DIVISION

WARD 4 SECTION 8
BLOCK 642

SCALELIN. - 50 FT. DATE JULY 1925



407-09 Battimore St. . B- 2359

Neg. #7 5/76 P. Snomn

Blaz 642